

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~ 25X1A ONLYCOUNTRY AustriaREPORT NO. [REDACTED]TOPIC Comments of Communist Party of Austria on Election Results25X1X Scored by Association of the Independents in Upper Austria

[REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT Late October 1949

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DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 2 December 1949

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REMARKS _____

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At an internal conference at the provincial party board, HAIDER, provincial leader of the Communist Party of Austria in Upper Austria, said that the results in the workers' councils elections in Austria proved that the Central Committee underestimated the influence of the Association of the Independents (VdU) on the Austrian workers. Although he repeatedly called the Central Committee's attention to the danger of political penetration by the VdU, he was not taken seriously, as the Central Committee was too much impressed by the conditions in VIENNA. The results of the workers' councils elections in Upper Austria, particularly the LINZ plants, came as a shock, as it was hoped that the Communist position could be maintained, at least in large enterprises. The KPÖ is now forced to admit that the VdU succeeded in pushing back even the Socialist Party of Austria.

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Comment:

The VdU received 60 percent of the vote in two LINZ plants (VOEST and a nitrogen plant).

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